

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, August 3, 2015. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, John Stauter, and Chris Wilen. Absent: Alderman Bob Conklin.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, Police Lieutenant Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mary Carlson expressed concern about the drainage ditch that runs along 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and along the side of Thomas Park pond. This area has not been maintained properly since it was widened, approximately ten years ago. Also, there is green scum across the top of the water at Thomas Park already.

Shirley Sharp asked about the Bark Park that was proposed in Thomas Park. Manager Shumard explained the Park District was working with donors for funding of that. Pam Eggmeier, from Sauk Valley News, reported that the people spearheading that project have left the area and believes the project has been dropped.

Alderman Wilen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes of July 20, 2015
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,150,647.27
- C) Plan Commission minutes of May 28, 2015
- D) Partial Pay Request #5 to Martin and Company Excavating in the amount of \$139,754.70 for work at the Plant 1 site with the IGIG grant
- E) Approve Bucket Brigade for Sterling American Legion Auxiliary on August 15, 2015, from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Stauter asked if the partial payment on the IGIG grant was for areas of Thomas Park. Manager Shumard does not recall any for that part of the project. Mayor Lee wanted to remind people performing bucket brigades that they are to step back from the driving lanes during red lights. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Proclamation declaring Tuesday, August 4, 2015, as National Night Out; seconded by Alderman Schuchard. Lt. Morgan invited the Mayor and Council to join citizens at area parks for games and food. Alderman

Wilen asked if Kiwanis could help as in the past. Lt. Morgan stated that everything is covered. Alderman Martin asked Chief Cook if the Fire Department could provide information on the Knox Boxes at the parks. Chief Cook stated he could get the information there. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record.

Alderman Stauter made a motion to award the bid for the 50/50 Sidewalk program to Larry Jennings Excavating in the amount of \$5.98 per square foot and accompanying curb bids; seconded by Alderman Schuchard. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Ordinance #2015-8-13 that allows for the property at 201 Fifth Avenue to be reclassified from B-2-2 to B-2-2 Special Use permitting the expansion of first floor residential**; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter in to an Intergovernmental Agreement with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the maintenance of State Routes through June 20, 2025; seconded by Alderman Elston. Alderman Stauter asked how much maintenance the City is responsible for. Manager Shumard assured the overlays are still the responsibility of the State, but he and Superintendent Schrader are concerned about Route 40. Alderman Martin asked if that was on the list for repaving because it was considered when Subway on Locust was being proposed. Manager Shumard stated it had been on the five-year list but not sure where it is now. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin asked the cooperation of citizens to slow down through construction areas to minimize the dust in neighborhoods.

Alderman Elston reported the last movie will be Tuesday night, the last concert on Wednesday night, and hot dog days on Friday.

Alderman Stauter reported that he did see work at Thomas Park and they are getting ready to install the fountain. Stauter asked how the brush pick-up is going. Superintendent Schrader stated they should be done by the end of this week.

Mayor Lee thanked everyone for their help during the movies and band concerts.

Shirley Sharp noted the benches at Grandon look very nice.

Alderman Schuchard made a motion to move to "Closed Session" as provided for under 5 ILCS 120/2 for the purposes of discussion related to the purchase or lease of real property and collective bargaining at 7:00 pm; seconded by Alderman Martin. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to reconvene the open meeting at 8:54 pm; seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Manager Shumard asked Council members for available dates for the Strategic Planning Sessions, which will be two 3-hour sessions. Council members proposed two sets of dates: August 23 and 24 or September 13 and 14.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Marie Rombouts  
City Clerk